



City of Long Beach
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Press Release and Public Advisory
4th District Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell

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**O'Donnell Secures \$1.5 Million Dollars in Funds for El Dorado Nature Center
Security Enhancements**
Public to immediately see improvements to Nature Center

Long Beach—Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell announced today that work on the first of many community-identified improvements needed at the El Dorado Nature Center is set to begin. Money for the \$1.5 million dollars in projects will come from City Council directed one-time funds as well as from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy--where he serves as Long Beach's representative.

"As a parent, teacher and City Councilmember, I know the importance of the Nature Center. It is part of the fabric of Long Beach and a place I spent time as a child and now take my own children. It is time this place of wonder and beauty gets attention and funding to ensure that it stays that way," said O'Donnell. "I am happy to have been able to work to secure the money necessary for the improvements so that children and families can enjoy it for years to come" he continued.

Several months ago, O'Donnell held a public meeting at the Nature Center in order to gather community input and to best identify the needs of the 44-year old public facility. The meeting focused on the future vision of the center and was an opportunity for residents to provide their insight and ideas—many of which were incorporated by staff into the plans for the Center improvements. While long term accomplishments for the project include repairing the lake and pond, enhancing the entryway and a new bridge—residents will first be seeing improvements and enhancements to the fencing line along Willow Street to ensure facility security.

Work is scheduled to begin at the Nature Center immediately. To receive updates on the status of the work—or to share your ideas, visit www.longbeach.gov/district4.

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About the RMC:

The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) was created by the California legislature in 1999. Their mission is to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within the jurisdiction which includes eastern Los Angeles County and western Orange County. This vast and varied area includes mountains, valleys, rivers, coastal plain, and coastline.